



Kansas Environmental News

January 2001

Secretary's Corner

It's been two years since I first came to KDHE to begin the role of the agency secretary and with everything I've learned, I'm certainly glad I don't have to start all over! It's been an enjoyable, yet challenging position and I look forward to beginning my third year here.

The Division of Environment has taken tremendous steps in the past year under the leadership of Dr. Ron Hammerschmidt. A strategic plan has been developed which I look forward to seeing implemented and believe it will help us to improve our service to the public as well as improve our communication within the division.

I appreciate all of the work the Bureau of Water staff have done on the drafting of new regulations to protect our state's aquifers in sensitive ground water areas, in addition to working with EPA on water quality issues. The Air and Radiation Bureau has also worked diligently on the ozone issues in the Kansas City Metropolitan area. The Planning and Prevention staff deserve recognition for the progress on establishing TMDL's (total maximum daily loads) for the many rivers and lakes in the state, and the Bureau of Environmental Field Services deserves recognition for the extensive water quality monitoring within the state. Environmental remediation staff have worked hard on

numerous projects throughout the state and our storage tank section is to be commended for their work on MTBE issues. I also appreciate the many efforts of our waste management staff in dealing with our state's landfills, recycling issues, as well as the magnificent work on the Kansas Don't Spoil It campaign. There are so many projects, too many to list here, of which I'm very proud of the work you do. Keep up the great work!

Many new challenges will face us in the upcoming legislative session. We must again work together, as we have so well in the past, to do what is right and needed for the citizens of Kansas.

Have a joyful holiday and Happy New Year!

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WORKS! 2001

The next **Recycling and Composting WORKS! Conference** will be **March 20-22, 2001**. After six wonderful years in Lindsborg the annual Kansas Solid Waste Management Conference is moving a little further west to Fort Hays State University and the City of Hays. The successful format of Tuesday training, Wednesday general and concurrent sessions and demonstrations, and Thursday Recycling and Composting forums will be maintained. A committee has already met in Hays and it looks to be another great conference.



Like this year's conference, the theme will stress the importance of partnerships. Programs demonstrating unique and successful partnerships will be featured and a new KDHE partnership award will be presented. Tuesday training sessions will include beginner and advanced recycling and composting, and multi-use site operator training to efficiently operate one site with municipal solid waste, special wastes, composting and recycling various materials.

Tentative conference topics include: construction and demolition recycling, deconstruction, resource management contracting, green building, partnering (nuts and bolts plus a panel), regulatory issues (state solid waste plan, solid waste management plan updates, permits and grants), electronic recycling, cooperative marketing (with actual regional break out sessions). Even more diverse composting, wood utilization, recycling and reuse demonstrations are being planned for the Wednesday afternoon sessions. Wednesday evening festivities include a reception and tours at Sternberg Museum with the premiere attraction: **A T-Rex named Sue**, the largest, most complete, and best preserved Tyrannosaurus Rex fossil yet discovered. This will be followed by a special dinner featuring German specialties, music and dancing (yes even some Polka). Thursday will feature recycling and composting forums, community based environmental education training and regional cooperative marketing break out sessions. The conference will end with the Kansas Recyclers Association's annual awards luncheon.

Kent Foerster, Bureau of Waste Management



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KDHE REGULATIONS IN PROCESS

updated 12/27/01

REGULATION	DIV. DRAFT	EPA REVIEW	DOA REVIEW	AG REVIEW	PUBLIC HEARING	EFFECTIVE
Solid Waste						
Groundwater(A)	*12/00	*1/01	*1/01	*2/01	*4/01	*6/01
Vertical Expansions	*12/00	*1/01	*1/01	*2/01	*4/01	*6/01
Permit Fees	*12/00	*1/01	*1/01	*2/01	*4/01	*6/01
Medical Waste	*1/01	N/A	*2/01	*3/01	*5/01	*7/01
SW Planning	*2/01	N/A	*3/01	*4/01	*6/01	*8/01
Const/Demo	*3/01	N/A	*4/01	*5/01	*7/01	*9/01
Hazardous Waste Update (A)	*12/01	*1/01	*1/01	*2/01	*4/01	*6/01
Air and Radiation:						
Bakery Facility RACT Rule--KC area (N)	6/98		4/99	4/99	12/99	12/22/00
Emissions Fees (A)	5/00				2/14/01	3/15/01
50%Permit-by-Rule(A)	*1/01		*2/01	*2/01	*5/01	*6/01
AcidRainPermits(A)	11/00		*1/01	*1/01	*4/01	*5/01
Acid Rain NOx(N)	11/00		*1/01	*1/01	*4/01	*5/01
Opacity Rule(A)	*1/01		*2/01	*2/01	*5/01	*6/01
UpdateStds(NSPS,MA)	11/00		*2/01	*2/01	*5/01	*6/01
MSWLF EG Rules	1/01		*2/01	*2/01	*5/01	*6/01
Low-RVP Rule KC area(A)	10/00		12/13/00	12/13/00	*3/01	*4/01
Water						
Surface Water Quality Standards(A)			6/5/00	6/5/00	8/00	11/00
Operator Certification(A)	10/00		11/00	*11/00	*2/01	*3/01
Environmental Remediation						
Dry Cleaning	4/00		6/00	6/00	8/00	1/01

*projected, New(N), Amended(A), Revoked(R)

Kansas Clean Sweep Mercury Collection

The Kansas Clean Sweep Mercury Collection program has been designed to remove obsolete, unwanted, and waste products containing mercury from the Kansas environment. Mercury is a hazardous and highly toxic material which may enter the body through inhalation of vapors, absorption through skin, or ingestion of foods contaminated with mercury compounds. Once in the body, mercury can accumulate in tissues and organs. Prolonged or repeated exposure to mercury can lead to irreversible damage to the skin, mucous membranes, nervous system, brain, and kidneys.

Any Kansas school, health department, small hospitals, dentist office, doctor office, or non-regulated business owner is eligible for the Clean Sweep Program. Kansas residents who have mercury products in their home or living quarters are also eligible however, due to federal hazardous waste regulations, "Kansas" Hazardous Waste Generators and "EPA" Hazardous Waste Generators are ineligible for the program. Any device containing free-flowing mercury such as thermometers, barometers, manometers, sphygmomanometers (blood pressure measurement devices), mercury-containing heating thermostats, mercury switches, and individual containers of elemental mercury are eligible for the program. Mercury amalgams and mercury salts are also eligible for collection.

In order to make the program accessible to all Kansans, numerous collection sites have been established statewide. Collection sites are not limited to county residents, however, collection sites may limit collections to certain days during the program period which will run from February 15 through April 15, 2001. Collection is free and material collected will be reclaimed or disposed by a qualified licensed contractor. (See collection locations on page 4) or call Jim Rudeen at 785-291-3132. *Jim Rudeen, Bureau of Waste Management*

County	City	Location
Allen	LaHarpe	Landfill
Atchison	Effingham	Noxious Weed Office
Barber	Medicine Lodge	Landfill
Barton	Great Bend	HHW Facility
Bourbon	Uniontown	Noxious Weed Office
Brown	Hiawatha	Transfer Station
Butler	ElDorado	HHW Facility
Chase	Cottonwood Falls	Noxious Weed Office
Cherokee	Columbus	Health Department
Cheyenne	St. Francis	Landfill
Cloud	Concordia	Health Department
Coffey	Burlington	HHW Facility
Comanche	Coldwater	Landfill
Cowley	Winfield	Transfer Station
Crawford	Pittsburg	Env. Health Dept
Dickinson	Abilene	Transfer Station
Douglas	Lawrence	HHW Facility
Edwards	Kinsley	Highway Department
Elk	Howard	Courthouse
Ellis	Hays	Environmental Office
Finney	Garden City	Noxious Weed Office
Ford	Dodge City	Noxious Weed Office
Franklin	Ottawa	HHW Facility
Geary	Junction City	Noxious Weed Office
Graham	Hill City	Noxious Weed Office
Grant	Ulysses	Noxious Weed Office
Greeley	Tribune	Landfill
Greenwood	Eureka	Noxious Weed Office
Hamilton	Syracuse	Highway Department
Harper	Harper	Landfill
Harvey	Newton	HHW Facility
Haskell	Sublette	Highway Department
Hodgeman	Jetmore	Highway Department
Jackson	Holton	Recycling Center
Jefferson	Oskaloosa	Noxious Weed Office
Jewell	Manketo	Recycling Center
Johnson	Mission, Olathe	HHW Facility
Labette	Oswego	Noxious Weed Office
Leavenworth	Leavenworth	Landfill

Lyon	Emporia	Noxious Weed Office
Marion	Marion	Noxious Weed Office
Marshall	Marysville	Noxious Weed Office
McPherson	McPherson	HHW Facility
Meade	Meade	Recycling Center
Miami	Paola	HHW Facility
Mitchell	Beloit	Noxious Weed Office
Montgomery	Independence	HHW Facility
Morris	Council Grove	Transfer Station
Ness	Ness City	County Shop
Norton	Norton	HHW Facility
Osborn	Osborn	Courthouse
Ottawa	Minneapolis	Courthouse
Phillips	Phillipsburg	Landfill
Pratt	Pratt	HHW Facility
Rawlins	Atwood	HHW Facility
Reno	Hutchinson	Landfill
Republic	Belleville	Noxious Weed Office
Riley	Manhattan	HHW Facility
Rooks	Plainville	Landfill
Rush	LaCrosse	Noxious Weed Office
Russell	Russell	Noxious Weed Office
Saline	Salina	HHW Facility
Sedgwick	Wichita	HHW Facility
Seward	Liberal	HHW Facility
Shawnee	Topeka	HHW Facility
Stafford	St. John	County Shop
Stanton	Johnson	Law Enf. Center
Sumner	Wellington	Landfill
Thomas	Colby	HHW Facility
Trego	Wakeeney	Landfill
Wallace	Sharon Springs	Recycling Center
Washington	Washington	Noxious Weed office
Wichita	Leoti	Recycling Center
Wilson	Fredonia	Courthouse
Wyandotte	Kansas City	WW Treatmt Plnt # 1

You CAN Influence Kansas Laws!

Kansas lawmakers are in Topeka to represent YOU. So when you want your voice to be heard, consider the following suggestions:

Legislative committee meetings are conducted as "open meetings" and you are invited to attend. All bills are identified by number when they are introduced and copies of every bill are available at the Document Room at the Capitol, at the County Clerk's office or can be mailed to you if you call 1-800-432-3924 (Legislative Hotline). You can also access legislative information via the State of Kansas internet site, www.accesskansas.org

Committees meet on a routine schedule during the legislative session. The meeting room and the names of the committee secretary are listed in the House Calendar with the committee's weekly agenda. Scheduled hearings and room assignments are also available on the web site under "Legislature." If you decide to testify at a hearing, you should contact the committee secretary. You will be given instructions on the time limitations, the number of copies of written testimony to provide and other guidelines for your presentation. If others from your area are testifying on the bill, try to coordinate testimony prior to the hearing to avoid duplications.

Be on time to committee meetings and remember that seating is limited in hearing rooms. You will be asked to register your presence. If there is not time for everyone to be heard, you may submit your written testimony. Usually committees hear all proponents of a bill, then all opponents; and most hearings are fairly informal.

Begin your testimony by addressing the Chair and committee members. Introduce yourself, where you are from and whom you represent, whether you are an opponent, a proponent or neutral. Be courteous. Be brief and avoid repetition. You may be asked questions by committee members but don't be nervous - they are interested in what you have

to say. There may not be a decision made by the committee on the day of the hearing so continue to watch the committee agenda in the House Calendar for action on the bill of interest to you.

If you are not available to testify in person, and you want to express your opinion, you can write, telephone, send a fax or e-mail to your legislator. To make your comments as effective as possible, consider the following: Identify yourself clearly, include your address and phone number so that a response can be made.

Explain your interest in the bill, your opinion and any special expertise or experience you have on the subject. If you call your legislator, be polite, reasonable and to the point. If the legislator is unavailable, leave a message with the secretary or on the hotline.

Avoid form letters or post cards. A short, personal note is most effective. Keep letters to one page. Explain your position, give supporting examples, ask for their support, thank them and ask for a response after the vote.

If you choose to visit your legislator in person, please make an appointment with the secretary, identify your concerns, and the number of the bills you would like to discuss. During the visit, be polite and concise. It is a good idea to provide them with your comments in writing, even on a personal visit, so that they can refer to them later, if needed.. Your lawmakers are interested in your opinion!

Dr. Carlson Leaves KDHE

Dr. Roger Carlson, long time Director of the Health and Environmental Laboratories, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, resigned early in December. Dr. Carlson has accepted a position as Director of Environmental Laboratories with the State of Pennsylvania. Staff and friends of Dr. Carlson will miss his leadership, and wish him success in his new position.

Division of Environment Develops Strategic Plan

The Division of Environment, with the guidance and assistance of the Docking Institute for Public Affairs, Fort Hays State University, has developed a strategic management plan. The plan was developed by staff from various programs within the Division of Environment who participated in retreats. The plan is guided by the Division's mission statement "Protecting the public health and environment for Kansas" and the vision statement "During the next 10 years, the Division of Environment envisions Kansans working together to achieve measurable improvements in the quality of the air, water and soils. The Division of Environment will lead this effort by educating the public, encouraging voluntary compliance, administering equitable enforcement, restoring the quality of natural resources, and managing resources efficiently and effectively."



The plan includes several environmental goals in air quality, underground storage tanks, clean waters, safe drinking water, safe waste management. Specifically, those goals are: Air Quality - Kansas and Kansas communities will be free of air pollutants at levels that cause significant risk of cancer, respiratory illness or other health problems, or damage to the natural resources of the state; Underground Storage Tanks - Prevent or eliminate damages to the health of Kansas citizens and natural resources of the state by enforcement of laws and regulations designed to reduce releases of pollutants and refined petroleum products from petroleum storage tanks; Clean Waters: Kansas surface waters (rivers, streams, lakes and wetlands) will support health communities of fish, plants and other aquatic life, and uses such as recreation and drinking water supply; Groundwater will be protected for drinking water supply and other beneficial uses; Safe Drinking Water - The Kansas public water supply system will provide water that is consistently safe to drink and groundwater quality will be protected; Safe Waste Management - Facilities which generate, store, treat, process, or dispose of solid waste or hazardous waste will be managed according to practices that prevent releases to the environment and minimize nuisances.

Five separate tracks are included in the Strategic Management Plan. A number of DOE staff will be studying the issues to be addressed within the tracks, through committees and focus groups. The five tracks include Formulating Environmental Policy Consensus, Public Communication and Education, Customer Service, Management and Human Resources. Each of DOE's five bureau directors has taken leadership responsibility for achieving one or more goals associated with these management tracks. The bureaus will share in the responsibility of achieving the objectives within a reasonable time frame.

Division of Environment staff will be devoting time and energy to the implementation of the plan, especially during the next year. It is hoped that through the plan, the Division will foster better relationships with all whom we serve.

Ron Hammerschmidt, PhD, Director, Division of Environment

Dry Cleaning Alternatives: A Small Business Case Study

Is your dry cleaner still using perchloroethylene solvent? Perhaps they should try the oldest solvent of all - water. A Wichita dry cleaner tried water and is happy with the results.

Three years ago, Lee's Cleaners in Wichita purchased an Aquatex washing machine and dryer. Now about half the clothes cleaned are processed with water with the other half cleaned with perc. "Susan" is the cleaning technician at Lee's. She prefers wet cleaning for suedes and leathers, noting that those garments get much cleaner with water than perc. She has to stretch some of the leathers after cleaning, and notes that she must also stretch some men's suits. However, Susan likes wet cleaning for slacks, wedding gowns and other garments with beads or sequins because perc causes swelling of fibers, which can weaken the attachment of beads or sequins. Susan does not use wet cleaning of some fabrics, such as ramie and 100 percent wool, but she uses it on blends up to 50 percent wool. She finds that wet cleaning works well for Dacron, silk, rayon and polyester. Typically, lined items must also be stretched.

Lee's wet-cleaning machine uses only cold water. Although wet-cleaning detergents can be expensive, Lee's uses two consumer detergents for some fabrics and they work just as well. To avoid damage to delicate fabrics, garments are turned inside out and kept closed, using either the garment's fasteners (buttons or zipper) or safety pins. The outside of the fabric should not contact the rotating chamber of the washing machine. Wet cleaning advantages include decreased environmental liability, less spotting and better smelling garments. There is no residual odor because Susan uses non perfumed detergents. Customers who have asthma appreciate the lack of odor from wet cleaned clothes. Another advantage is that multiple programming options are available with

the Aquatex machine, allowing gentle cleaning.

Lee's owner, Lee Gieseke, said that although soaps and finishing agents are more expensive for wet cleaning, it is economical because there are no hazardous waste disposal costs. Gieseke forecasts continued use of both perc and wet cleaning because of the variety of available fabrics and fabric blends. As consumers become better educated on professional "dry" cleaning, they may prefer professional "wet" cleaning.

There are additional alternatives to perc and to learn more about wet cleaning or other perc alternatives, contact Nancy Larson, Small Business Environmental Assistance Program, 1-800-578-8898.

Nancy Larson, Pollution Prevention Institute, Kansas State University

The Small Business Environmental Assistance Program provides free, confidential assistance to Kansas small businesses. Services include answers to questions, on-site assessments, providing information about alternative technologies and help with environmental permits. The program is provided under a contract from KDHE to help businesses comply with environmental regulations. To learn more, call the Pollution Prevention Institute at 1-800-578-8898.

Mark your calendar today for the 2001 annual environmental conference, September 19-20, Ramada Inn, Hutchinson, Kansas



**Kansas Environment:
Risks, Rationale and Reality**

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P2 Awards Application Available

The Kansas Pollution Prevention Awards and Recognition Program Application for 2001 is available on the KDHE Web site. In the spirit of Pollution Prevention we are not mailing the applications to all recipients of the Kansas Environmental News this year. Rather, we hope you will check it out on the Web at www.kdhe.state.ks.us/environment and go to the Office of Planning and Prevention's page.

The Awards and Recognition program is open to all Kansas businesses, industries, schools, community groups, municipalities and individuals. Awards are presented to those applicants who have demonstrated a significant contribution in preventing pollution. Individuals and companies are recognized for taking the "P2 Pledge" which is included in the awards and application materials.

The deadline for applications and P2 Pledges is June 29, 2001 at 5:00. If you do not have internet access, please call us at 1-800-357-6087 to request a hard copy of the application.

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